

Studying Wisely - Wisdom for Students

Studying is simple. Surprised? The truth is that studying is a matter of diligence and planning. A lot of time for studying, avoid distractions, and ensure that you are covering all your course material. That's 80% of the science right there. But it isn't easy. That is to say, gathering the will everyday is a challenge, and, despite your best intentions, following your plan can be a trying experience.

The Challenge of Academics

Why is it so simple and yet so hard? It is the lack of foresight. Studying everyday might seem like a piece of cake for the first few days of your semester, but as time marches on, it becomes repetitive and boring. What you need is something to motivate you, to keep you going. You must always be in touch with the larger picture, **WHY** you are studying.

And I don't mean the goal; to obtain a degree or start a career. I mean why do you do any of it at all? What's the **fulfilment value** in it for you? What is it that would **make it all worthwhile**?

The Pursuit of Happiness

Career is an important thing. It has, however, been twisted by modern man into something less than it actually is. Considered just a means to an end, most miss the essential value of fulfilment through excellence and contribution to society that comes with it. Work is just a 9-5 job, to be beared and done in order to come home to family where true happiness happens.

But, it is not so. Work can be inherently a means towards soul expansion. Your creativity grows through applying yourself to various different projects. Your emotional intelligence grows through interacting with colleagues, clients, and suppliers. Your courage grows as you ask for promotions and work to push your horizons as an employee. All this makes you a richer human being.

Is Having a Career the Right Thing for You

A job is necessary. A career is a choice. That you choose to invest in yourself in this way, engaging in a challenging universe that can help you grow in all spheres of your life, is your choice. You could go through life with a simple job, just making enough money to enjoy the necessities and focus more on the relationships in your life. There's nothing wrong with that!

You need to think deeply and decide. Do you want your life to be also about contributions to society, and growing in your own intelligence? Do you want to become a 'complete person' in more than one way? If so, it is time to become career minded.

Academics is the Beginning

Academics is where it begins. How will you gain the tenacity and ability to work long hours, to apply yourself consistently, to do the small things you don't enjoy doing that are part of your job, if you don't put yourself through a rigorous course in academics? How will you expand your mind to be capable of high level thinking required in the workplace?

Few are those that can skip school and come out on top in their careers. It can happen, but it is better to invest in what is likely, in the common denominator of things. Academics prepares you in so many ways for a high powered career. The biology class that you might never use in a corporate office teaches you to appreciate the natural development of things. You might never need to know the different organs in a human body for your work, but learning about them also teaches you that there is sanity in appreciating organic growth. This could be applied to work. For instance, not pushing a sale and letting it develop organically.

You might never use advanced mathematics in your job, but it expands your mind to be capable of abstract thinking. You will use abstract thinking when problem solving at work.

And the hours put in studying school texts prepares you for the long hours you will need to put into your work.

Academics is Only The Beginning, But Keep in Mind Where You are Headed

So, when you are at school or at home studying for your next exam, it never hurts to remind yourself what it is all for. Realizing that these hours spent will open up a whole new world of joy, of excellence in career, of contributions to society, will give you the motivation you need to keep studying.

The larger picture is always important. Always have a mission in life to feel a sense of presence in your endeavours. It's like you are really really there, not absent on some level thinking of other things. It unites all parts of your being; your emotions, mind, and body, towards a common destination. A divided soul easily falls into apathy and lethargy, but one that is whole in its intent and efforts usually finds what it is looking for.

It is a Choice

It is your choice what to do with your life. But a career can be very rewarding with more than just money. It can be a source of all kinds of growth and happiness.

Consider.

“What to do with this one, precious, fleeting fit of life? That is the question. To be, or not to be, or to be but only half-heartedly, living out of the ‘shoulds’ of others? And the answer is simple, because life is short.

Do whatever makes you feel passionately alive. Find a way - however much you have to struggle at first - of making a living from truly living.

Honor your unique talents and abilities. Do what moves you and connects you to the deepest truth of yourself. Trust prosperity and passion over profit and comfort and the approval of others, because all the approval in the world is empty if it is for something your heart does not believe in." (Being App, Choice 3.157)